

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Office of Fire and Aviation  
3833 South Development Avenue  
Boise, Idaho 83705

July 2, 2001

In Reply Refer To:  
9210 (FA-130) P

EMS Transmission 07/03/01  
Information Bulletin OF&A No. 2001-038

To: State Directors

From: Director, Office of Fire and Aviation

Subject: BLM Prescribed Fire Plan Preparation Workshop DD: 9/27/2001

Over the last four years the OF&A has conducted a number of evaluations of state prescribed fire programs and escaped prescribed fires. Several common themes have been identified. Two of these relate to the quality of prescribed fire plans: 1) Prescribed fire plans do not consistently meet the Bureau standards; and 2) there is a lack of information flow between sections of the prescribed fire plan. These two items increase the Bureau's risk when conducting prescribed fire operations.

In response to the above concerns, the OF&A is planning a workshop on Prescribed Fire Plan Preparation. The workshop will be held November 26-30, 2001, at the National Interagency Fire Center in Boise, Idaho. Because of the projected number of students who need this training, the workshop is planned to be a Train-the-Trainer type workshop with each state sending a five person team (or a geographic area team) to the workshop. Team membership should include one resource specialist knowledgeable in prescribed fire and four people qualified at the Burn Boss 2 level or higher. The team may include the State Fuels Specialist, Field Office Fuels Specialists, Technical Reviewers, and Burn Bosses, but all should be qualified and experienced personnel who can serve as instructors. The state training team should be highly qualified people who will serve as the state's Steering Committee and coordinate additional training sessions at the state level. Each state will be asked through the FY 2002 Annual Work Plan Directives to plan and conduct the number of workshops necessary to train their field office personnel in writing prescribed fire plans.

At the completion of the workshop each state team will be able to:

- a. Prepare a Prescribed Fire Plan that is written in compliance with Bureau standards as provided in IM OF&A No. 2000-020.
- b. Know the roles and responsibilities of the preparer, technical reviewer, and approval personnel.
- c. Assure all pertinent information flows through the appropriate sections of the prescribed fire plan as identified in the prescribed fire plan "Link Chart."
- d. Provide feedback on the lesson plan content.
- e. Develop an action plan on how to teach the material in their state.

Based on the feedback from the training teams, the lesson plans will be revised and new course material printed for each state. The new course material will be distributed to the states in February 2002.

By September 27, 2001, each State Office should send the names of their five person State Training Team to Phil Range, at the Office of Fire and Aviation. Any questions should be addressed to Phil, at 208-387-5555.

Signed by:  
Timothy M. Murphy  
Acting Director, Office of Fire and Aviation

Authenticated by:  
Pat Lewis  
Supervisory Mgmt. Asst.